- Various actions have been taken to strengthen the procurement capabilities in the Department, PSAs to the Department of empowered Procurement Wing (EPW) in the Department.

(e) and (f) The World Bank in its negotiations held with the Ministry has given an indicative commitment of US$ 350 Million for Reproductive and Child Health Programme, Phase-II for the period from 2005-06 to 2009-10. The Project is yet to be approved by the World Bank. The Government of India is committed to implement the programme of RCH-II from its own budgetary support even if World Bank assistance is not available. The RCH-II which is the flagship programme under NRHM has not faced any financial constraint as the requirements have been made available from the domestic budgetary support.

Quota for Medical PG admissions

2967. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical colleges in the country, indicating such colleges being run/funded by the Centre;

(b) whether Government have decided that apart from MBBS, 27 per cent OBC quota will be included to post-graduate courses like MD and MS;

(c) whether total reservation in medical colleges will now go up from the existing 22.5 per cent (for SC and ST students) to 49.5 per cent; if so, what provision is made for providing additional admission seats/financial assistance for 2006-07; and

(d) whether the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has opposed reservation quota system and requested Government "not to sacrifice merit to populist politics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) At present there are 242 medical college in the country. The medical colleges being run/funded by the Centre are:

1. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

2. Lady Harding Medical College, New Delhi.

3. JIPMER, Pondicherry.

4. Government Medical College, Chandigarh.

5. Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.

6. Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh.

7. University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi.

8. Vardhman Mahabir Medical College & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi.

9. PGIMER, Chandigarh.

10. NIMHANS, Bangalore.

11. Sri Chitra Tirunal Institute, Trivandrum

12. AFMC, Pune

In addition some of the Institutes/Hospitals also conduct specialised courses.

(b) and (c) At present in the centrally governed institutions, reservation is being provided for SC/ST only. The matter regarding provision of 27% reservation for OBC in the Central Medical Institutions is under consideration. With the increase in reservation, there is no provision for providing additional admission seats for 2006-07, as, such increase in admission capacity of a particular institution can be considered only under the provisions of Section 10 (A) of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and the Regulations made thereunder.

(d) No such reference opposing resrvation quota system has been received by the government from the Indian Medical Association (IMA).

Approval to Theni Medical College

2968. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to grant approval to Theni Medical College;